

Bomb found at office of

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A time bomb was found in front of the Hialeah office of an airline charter company that specializes in tours to Cuba. The militant Cuban exile group Omega 7 took responsibility.

The bomb was found by a janitor at 9 last night — one to three hours before it was set to explode, police said. It was dismantled by members of the Metro bomb squad.

"It was a real thing," said Hialeah detective Bob Spiegel. "I heard that it would have done quite a bit of damage."

The bomb was hidden in a black vinyl briefcase. It was made of three pounds of dynamite, a hand grenade and ball bearings.

The airline company, American Airway Charters Inc., 1840 W. 49th St., Hialeah, has been arranging tours to Cuba since 1978.

The Associated Press and Latin radio station WQBA received word of the bomb from people claiming to represent Omega 7.

WQBA received a tape recording from the group taking responsibility for "bombs" planted yesterday. Authorities said no other bombs had been reported.

The FBI is investigating.

Cuban-charter airline here

In march, the FBI termed Omega 7 the most dangerous terrorist organization in the country and said the government had assigned the highest priority to prosecuting its members — none of whom are known.

The last time the group surfaced it said it was responsible for the Sept. 11 assassination of Cuban diplomat Feliz García-Rodríguez, who was shot while driving in New York City.

The group has taken responsibility for the bombing of a Miami cigar factory in January; the April 1979 murder of Carlos Munoz, a Cuban exile who lived in Puerto Rico; and the killing of Union City, N.J., resident Eulalio Negrin, an activist in Cuban exile affairs.

Omega 7 also took responsibility for the Oct. 28, 1979, bombing of the Cuban mission in which two New York City policemen were injured. The group admits at least 14 other terrorist acts, most of them in the New York area.

American Airway Charters served as the carrier for Cuban political exiles who fled Castro's regime in 1978.

The company has since been flying Cuban exiles living in the United States to the island for visits. It recently instituted flights for American tourists who fly into Havana for day-long trips that include a city tour, dinner and a show at the Tropicana nightclub.